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September 22, 2003

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**TWENTY INDICTED ON
METHAMPHETAMINE RELATED CHARGES**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana,
announced that the following individuals were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in
Indianapolis for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine:

- Francis Blair, 35, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Jesse LNU, Santa Ana, California
- Victor Avila, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Gabriel Rosas, 22, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Mauricio Lopez, 24, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Joaquim Molina, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Ricardo Linares, 27, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Carlos Linares, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Carlos Rodriguez, 37, Indianapolis, Indiana

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Indictments - 2

- Charles Judy, 33, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Michael Covert, 28, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Linda Linnenkamp, 34, Farmersburg, Indiana
- Mark Linnenkamp, 31, Farmersburg, Indiana
- Brent Cherepkai, 40, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Jeffrey Scott Walker, 42, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Scott Smith, 33, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Virginia Taylor, 39, Terre Haute, Indiana
- Debi Parham, 47, Terre Haute, Indiana

In addition, JEFFREY STROLE, 54, FRANCIS BLAIR, and JUDY were charged with one count of conspiracy to launder monetary instruments. APRIL BLAIR was charged with one count of establishment of manufacturing operations.

The charges resulted from a three month investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Vigo County Drug Task Force, Terre Haute Police Department, and Vincennes Police Department.

The indictment alleges that the eighteen defendants charged with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine did so in the Terre Haute area from the June, 2003 through September 17, 2003. Based upon statements from cooperating witnesses, authorities estimate that the organization trafficked between thirty and fifty pounds of methamphetamine during this time period.

The indictment alleges that Jesse LNU, of Santa Ana, California, procured the methamphetamine in California and caused it to be transported to Indiana. DEBI PARHAM acted as a drug courier and transported the methamphetamine from California to Indiana.

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Indictments - 3

VICTOR AVILA, GABRIEL ROSAS, MAURICIO LOPEZ, JOAQUIM MOLINA, RICARDO LINARES, CARLOS LINARES, and CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, Mexican residents of Indianapolis, transported the methamphetamine from Indianapolis to Terre Haute. When the methamphetamine arrived in Terre Haute, FRANCIS BLAIR took control of the methamphetamine and distributed it to his methamphetamine dealers, who included CHARLES JUDY, MICHAEL COVERT, LINDA LINNENKAMP, MARK LINNENKAMP, BRENT CHEREPKAI, JEFFREY SCOTT WALKER, SCOTT SMITH, and VIRGINIA TAYLOR. APRIL BLAIR permitted the residence that she shared with her husband, FRANCIS BLAIR, to be used to store and distribute methamphetamine. JEFFREY STROLE handled and managed drug proceeds for FRANCIS BLAIR.

All defendants other than JESSE LNU, GABRIEL ROSAS, and MAURICIO LOPEZ have been arrested.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who is prosecuting the case for the government, each defendant indicted for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine faces a maximum possible prison sentence of life imprisonment and a maximum possible fine of \$4,000,000. JEFFREY STROLE and APRIL BLAIR face maximum possible prison sentences of twenty years imprisonment and maximum fines of \$250,000.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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